

The Foggy Bottom News

Vol. 8 No. 2

THE FOGGY BOTTOM NEWS

October 1963

FOGGY BOTTOM — THEN

How many present-day Bottomites remember when the outer edge of Foggy Bottom was the location of an "Embassy Row", including the British Embassy (Columbia Hospital site), the Mexican Embassy (the Weather Bureau is there now, or the Canadian Embassy (the building was only recently torn down and is now a parking lot adjacent to Collier's Liquors)?

Who remembers when Capital Traction, forerunner of D. C. Transit, ran a street car line - mainly for the benefit of employees of Christian Heurich Brewery - up 25th Street, down Pennsylvania Avenue and down 26th Street to G? To complete the route, they traveled east on G to 19th Street, then north on 19th to Pennsylvania and back to Foggy Bottom. Fare in those days? Five cents!

How many of you bought groceries from one of the two grocers in Snow's Court? On the corner of Eye and 25th? From Burns' Grocery at 26th and F? At the Safeway at 26th and K?

Did you ever go to the open air theater at Washington Circle (Lewis Hotel Training School) or at 26th and K Streets (Sealtest) to see plays or silent movies?

Those who remember any of these are really "old-time" Bottomites and may remember some of these things too: the apartment house at 2500 K Street is the site on which was a nurses' home. Diagonally across the street (Washington Circle Apartments) was the De Francisco Statue Co. which featured an enormous statue of Bacchus with his grapes.

Thought association with the statue perhaps sent some of the passers-by to one of the many bars in the area, the closest being Bill Craven's at 26th and K. (This preceded the Safeway already mentioned. The building is also a former carry-out, an apartment and private residence. It is now the location of Fitzgerald Properties.)

The area bars were supplied, at least in part, by the two neighborhood breweries: Heurich's and another (Armand's ?) at what is now scheduled for Columbia Plaza.

If things got too rowdy, in all likelihood policeman Pat Gray would have ridden up on horseback to take care of the situation. Pat was well known for chasing down culprits in his saddle. Eventualities of an evening among the bars would lead residents to the corner of 25th and Pennsylvania, where the Wm. P. Herpst Co. was located for 72 years, to obtain some kind of cure for their hangover (and it's probably a present day subsequence too, since Columbia Drug Store is now located on that spot). For those that a patent medicine couldn't help, Dr. Moran (reputedly one of the finest women doctors ever) was just a few steps down Pennsylvania Avenue, as was Dr. Southern, to ease their pain.

The Westover Apartments (present location of Gold Liquors) had a little lawn out front where many tea parties were held. Had any of the residents wished to move across town, across country, or across the hall, Foggy Bottom's own Littlefield Transfer Co. - one of the city's largest - would have obliged. They would have had their battery and tire needs serviced just up the Avenue at Spencer's Battery Shop, which for many years occupied the present Collier's Liquor building.

The early German and Irish housewives in the area could, in their spare time, shop at the little novelty shop located on the northwest corner of 25th Street at Eye, or they could gather for gossip in the park

that once was in the middle of K Street. Mostly, however, they were to be found cooking, sewing, etc., and making a comfortable home for their husbands, many of whom were employed down the street, stoking upward of 30 tons of coal a day to keep the candle power up in the gas company.

NEXT MEETING

MONDAY, OCTOBER 28 - 8:00 P.M.
Pillsbury Hall, St. Paul's Episcopal Church
2430 K Street, N. W.

PROGRAM

SPEAKER: Mrs. Ruth L. Hodges
SUBJECT: Interior Design for the Small
House or Apartment

(Continued
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HELP THE ASSOCIATION HELP YOU - SEND IN YOUR DUES, NEWS AND VIEWS

FOGGY BOTTOM ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

President William L. Simon
 Vice President Walter S. Boardman
 Secretary Evelyn H. Larson
 Treasurer Elizabeth B. Winspear
 Executive Committee Mrs. Lloyd Dutch
 Harriet Gruger
 Alexander E. Wiskup

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

District Affairs Alexander E. Wiskup
 Membership Rufus Lisle
 Program Bernice Teuteberg
 Public Relations J. C. (Pat) Patterson

The NEWS is a monthly publication of the Public Relations Committee. NEWS mailing address is 2429 Eye Street, N. W. — Telephone 333-7837 or 337-5816.

DISTRICT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Alex E. Wiskup, Chairman

Responding to the resolution of the Association that certain streets be repaved in Foggy Bottom (derived from Bill Simon's survey), the Highway Department has included the following in 1966 and 1967 budgets:

24th Street, from Eye to K Street
 New Hampshire Avenue, from H to Eye Street
 G Street, from 23rd to 24th Street
 25th Street, from H to Pennsylvania Avenue
 26th Street, from Eye to L Street
 H Street, from 24th to New Hampshire Avenue

While 1966 and 1967 seem a long way off, the only way to get such projects is to have them incorporated in planning and budgeting which necessarily has to be done well in advance.

Our latest resolution, regarding possible parks, has already been acted upon. Highway Director H. L. Aitken has asked Mr. Albert A. Grant, Chief Engineer, Office of Planning and Programming, to make a study of the possibility of using leftover land from the highway program west of 26th Street for parks and other recreational purposes. Again, a long road to travel, but we are encouraged by the cooperative attitude of Mr. Aitken and his associates.

A study we hope will lead to more lighting in Hughes Mews has been undertaken by the Highway Department.

A complaint has been filed against the parking lot at 25th and H Streets since the lot is not paved with an impervious material as required and the sidewalks have been broken up and eroded over.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Rufus Lisle, Chairman

Although we are greatly encouraged by the number of NEW members in the Association, renewals are less than should be. We realize how easy it is to be a bit "forgetful" about sending in membership dues, so we would like to suggest that you stop right now and write your check for membership and send it in along with the membership form right away. It may even require a special trip to the mail box but don't put it off!

It seems to be that times have changed, that if FBA membership was ever a luxury, it no longer is. In the present climate of almost unrestrained grants of variances, etc. in Foggy Bottom we simply must have a strong voice with the various Committees, Boards and Departments "downtown".

Every membership is a definite, measurable gain of strength in fighting our battles. We want and need your support and we feel that you can, if necessary, justify the dues outlay in the simplest terms: as co-operative insurance with other FBA members, that Foggy Bottom will not be gradually reduced to the tightly constricted, unappealing, multiple-family or high-rise type community.

Elected officers, with your approval, determine the policy of the Association, and carry them through with you in mind. The Association is vital to the future of Foggy Bottom -- since in no other way can the "rank and file" Bottomite acquire the adequate strength to protect our interests and advance our causes.

Please become an active member in every sense of the word and use every opportunity to convince others who are not presently supporting the Association that it is a good investment to do so.

Dues to FBA represent a very small part of your support -- less than ten cents a week for owners and less than six cents a week for renters -- but, our effectiveness downtown is measured by your active participation in Association activities and community affairs.

PLEASE, send in your membership dues TODAY! We need you and feel that you need us, too.

Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Dutch, 2407 Eye Street, N. W., celebrated their 53rd Wedding Anniversary September 10th. Lloyd has been very helpful to the Association while at St. Paul's. Mrs. Dutch has been a member of the Executive Committee since its inception. Congratulations to this fine couple.


ST. STEPHEN'S TO CONDUCT CENSUS

Weather permitting, the men of St. Stephen, Martyr Parish will conduct a door - to - door census Sunday, November 17, from 1 until 6 p.m. This will be the first census since 1957, which showed then approximately 1,300 Catholics residing in the parish, the boundaries of which roughly coincide with the Foggy Bottom area.

Census questions will be asked of Catholics, only. Others, however, will receive a personal invitation to attend open house the following Sunday, November 24, at the Church, which is located on Pennsylvania Avenue at 25th Street, and at Immaculate Conception Academy, 24th and K Streets. Persons of all faiths will receive a cordial reception on "Open House" Sunday.

Intended as a good neighbor gesture, invitations to visit the Church and School will permit Bottomites to get acquainted with two of the most venerable institutions in the neighborhood. The Church interior with its huge stained glass front and starkly modern design, attracts many thousands of sightseers and worshippers, including, quite frequently, the President.

Have you ever seen such an elaborate, stone-walled trench as the one leading into a blank wall just east of the Peoples Life Insurance Building? Fascinating, to say the least!

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FOGGY BOTTOM'S OLDEST-A RELIABLE INSTITUTION

RECENT ARRIVALS IN THE BOTTOM

Judy and Bill Searle have occupied the house at 828 New Hampshire Avenue recently vacated by Bob and Estelle Green. Bill is an investment officer at the International Finance Corporation while Judy is an English instructor at George Washington University. They arrived here from Boston several weeks ago and we are happy to have them with us.

Ruth and Harold Hodges came to Foggy Bottom from suburbia and make their home at 2413 H Street. An interior decorator (free lance) by profession, Ruth is President of the Washington Chapter of National Home Fashion League. She is our speaker for the program next Monday night and will have slides for visual aid to our appreciation of her talk. We also welcome them to the Bottom.

James Creese Davis has joined forces with Helen and Margaret Davis to bring happiness into the lives of parents Elizabeth and Nathaniel. Little Jim was born October first (the excitement of our last Association meeting perhaps?) up the street at GW Hospital. Mr. and Mrs. Creese - Liz's parents - have been visiting and helping out around the house during the period of adjustment.

"Scandal" Glendening has taken up quarters at 2420 Eye Street. She is the beautiful champagne-colored Afghan hound recently acquired by Helen Glendening to partially fill the void left in her house by the recent departures of daughter Judy McCabe (to school in Vermont) and daughter and son-in-law Susan and Al Gillotti (to school in North Carolina).



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ARTIST-ILLUSTRATOR FOR THE NEWS

The Public Relations Committee is pleased to have the services of Dick Duggan as its artist-illustrator for the NEWS. As evidenced by this issue, we are confident that his artistic ability will heighten the appeal of the paper greatly by creating an appearance that helps put the NEWS far above the norm in so-called "Community Newspapers".

A recent graduate of the Georgetown University Law Center, Dick is employed by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of Interior. There seems to be no end to his talents and interests - from restoring houses and automobiles to designing Christmas and Birthday Cards. He also has a number of paintings in private collections throughout the city.

Plans for returning to Spokane to practice law are indefinite - and we hope its a long way off. It is indeed our good fortune to have him on the staff of the NEWS during the interim.

ASSOCIATION HISTORIAN

We regret to announce that due to the pressures of other activities Mrs. Mogi O'Neil has resigned as Historian for the Association.

It is, however, with great pleasure that we announce the appointment of Mrs. Mary Manzoli to succeed Mrs. O'Neil in this position. We have read in previous issues some of Mary's writing (remember the "Famous Names and Legends of Foggy Bottom" last April) and look forward to reading about interesting history of our neighborhood frequently in future editions of the NEWS.

Residents of Eye Street are extremely proud of the new sidewalks and grass plots but it is hoped that sunken bricks will be replaced before they wash out completely or cause an accident to the pedestrians.

Phone: FE 8-3377

*Marg-Ann
Beauty Salon*

2428 Eye St., N.W.
"In Foggy Bottom"
Washington, D.C.



ELEANOR MITCHELL IN SOUTH AMERICA

One of Foggy Bottom's staunchest supporters was recently lost (temporarily, we hope) when Eleanor Mitchell, of 2419 Eye Street, left for South America to establish a university library in Quito, Ecuador. She has signed a two year contract with AID and, in association with Washington University, St. Louis, Missouri, will "build from scratch" the library in Quito. Our loss is their gain but we look forward to having Eleanor back with us in '65.

ART EXHIBITION

The Margaret Dickey Gallery of Art at 2133 Pennsylvania Avenue is exhibiting, through November 2, the paintings of Melvin Buckner, A. F. Hecht, Elizabeth Long, Jane Love, Jessalee Sickman and Mary Snow. Hours are: Tuesday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Closed Monday.

25th Street Revisited: Shuffling of one-way streets added to the confusion of traffic-for several days-when, on October 9, 25th Street was torn up to put sewers under the street. Residents are hopeful that the 30-day schedule that was announced will be kept and that they will once again be able to see across the street.

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OCTOBER 20 - 21
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OCTOBER 22 - 24
The Virgin Spring ** Through A Glass Darkly

OCTOBER 25 - 27
Wild Strawberries ** The Seventh Seal

2105 Pennsylvania Avenue - Telephone 337-4470

OUR ADVERTISERS

The NEWS is indebted to our advertisers for their cooperation in underwriting the printing expenses of our paper each month. Many of them are "regular" advertisers and take space in every issue. These receive a special vote of thanks from us.

Our regular advertisers - and we hope to add to the list almost every month - are: the Circle Theatre, Collier's Liquors, D & W Market, the Federal Super Market, Foggy Bottom Gifts, Gold Liquors, Harding Salon of Beauty, Mc Lachlen Banking Corporation, the Keystone Pharmacy, Marg - Ann Beauty Salon, Mellonas Restaurant, Plaza Food Mart, Pot O' Gold, Tobey Jewelers, Top Value Liquors, Inc., the 2430 Valet, Washington Circle Market, and Water Gate Inn. Patronize them!

A NEW NAME FOR THE ASSOCIATION?

After getting off to a slow start, discussion on the resolution to amend the Association By Laws turned out to be one of the "sleepers" of the year.

The resolution had to be shelved until the October meeting because of lack of time. So, if you missed the September meeting but have an opinion that you would like to express - by discussion or by vote - it is not too late to do so. Attend the meeting Monday night and let us hear from you.

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RECREATION DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES

The Publicity Officer of the D. C. Recreation Department furnishes us with the following information which may be of interest to Foggy Bottom residents and readers of the NEWS.

The Department will sponsor an "Italian Variety Show" on the evening of November 16th, at 8:30. It will feature Italian singing, dancing, and music that will be performed by an all-Italian cast. There is a nominal charge for admission to this performance which will be held in the auditorium of the Roosevelt High School, located at the corner of 16th and Upshur Streets, N. W.

On November 26th, the Civic Symphony Orchestra, under the direction of Dr. Frederick Fall, will give a concert at the Roosevelt High School Auditorium. This concert will begin at 8:30 p.m. and admission is free. The program has not been announced yet, but we are certain that it will be an extremely good program and performance.

Also scheduled for November, date unannounced at this time, the D. C. Recreation Department will be the sponsor of a Jazz Concert in the Western High School Auditorium. It will be similar to the concerts by local Jazz artists - Charlie Byrd, Joe Rinaldi, Bill Whalen, etc. - sponsored by the Department during the summer at Watergate Theatre. If you heard and enjoyed any of the Watergate Concert performances, you'll want to "make the scene" for the one at Western. Admission is free.

When the program for the Civic Symphony Orchestra is announced, and when the stars and date of the Western High School Jazz Concert are firmed up, it will be published in Department Bulletins and local papers. Should you miss these announcements you can get the information by calling Patrick Heininger of the Recreation Department's Publicity Office at ADams 4-2050, extension 28.

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 AN ENJOYABLE SANDWICH MENU
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 CARRY OUT Mon - Fri - 7:30 am - 8 pm
 SERVICE Saturday - 7:30 am - 2 pm

QUALIFICATIONS TO VOTE IN 1964

Although it is a little early for us to register and to vote in the 1964 Presidential Election, a number of the residents of Foggy Bottom have indicated a desire to know more about what is required in order for them to be able to participate in the elections.

The following information, taken from a District of Columbia Republican Committee News Release, is a portion of several speeches made earlier this year by the Committee Chairman, Mr. Carl Shipley.

There is a widespread misunderstanding on the part of District residents on qualifications to register and vote in the general election for President and Vice President of the United States in 1964. That election will be held here and throughout the United States on Tuesday, November 3, 1964. Any District resident, who is a U. S. citizen and does not claim a voting residence or a right to vote in any state or territory, and who has resided in the District continuously for one year prior to November 3, 1964, and who is or will be 21 years of age on that date, and who has never been convicted of a felony in the United States, or if he has been, has been pardoned, and who has not been adjudicated mentally incompetent, is qualified to vote.

With these qualifications, a voter can register on and after January 1, 1964. The registry will open on January 1 and will remain open until September 19, 1964, except for the 45 day period from March 21 to May 5. A primary election will be held on May 5 for Party officers and officials and delegates to the Republican and Democratic national conventions. In order to register, a District resident must execute a registration affidavit by signature or mark (unless prevented by physical disability) on a form prescribed by the Board of Elections. That affidavit will show that the person registering meets each of the requirements as to age, residence, etc., outlined above. Any person registering does not have to show any political party affiliation in order to vote for President and Vice President.

To register and vote in the primary a person simply executes the registration affidavit prepared by the Board of Elections sometime between January 1 and March 21, 1964, the date on which the registry will close until after the primary to be held on May 5. He must show his party affiliation.

What political party officers will be elected in the May 5 primary in 1964? Persons who register as Republicans will be permitted to vote for the following Party officials: Republican National Committeeman, Republican National Committeewoman, and 9 Delegates to the Republican National Convention, 9 Alternate Delegates to the Republican National Convention, and 25 Members of the Republican State Committee for the District of Columbia. Persons who register as Democrats will be able to vote for the same Democratic Party officials.

More information can be obtained from the District Committee of either political party and, as specific information is available, the NEWS will publish it so that all eligible residents of the Bottom will have the necessary information and be able to exercise their right to vote -- many for the first time.

Beginning in November the NEWS will publish personal ads for 50¢ per line, minimum 2 lines. When you want to sell, rent, or buy; find a ride to work; or locate a maid, etc. call or send in your ad before the tenth of the month of issue.

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Nymph Chair, with
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Green, or
Black.

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Main Office . 10th and G Sts. N.W.
Southwest Branch . 400 12th St. S.W.

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933 - 25TH STREET, N.W.
(AT SNOW'S COURT)

Federal 7-1166

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OPEN SUNDAY - 9 AM TO 3 PM

FOGGY BOTTOM - THEN (continued)

Early Bottomites remember the days when everyone approaching the vicinity of 26th and F Streets ran a risk of being chased by Huckster Biddy's dogs. Her house was identifiable both by the dogs and by the American Flag that always flew there.

The Bottom is (or at least was) not without its bit of Washingtonian glory. Long since torn down, Peters House - at one time a fashionable private residence that later became an apartment house - located between 26th and 27th on K Street, was one of the authentic "George Washington Slept Here" houses.

The information for this article was obtained from one of Foggy Bottom's staunchest supporters and a true "old-time" Bottomite. He was born here and has lived here all his life. Known to almost everyone as either "Frank", or "Frank, The Barber", he is Frank Vimisa, who, as did his father before him, operates Foggy Bottom's oldest commercial establishment: Frank's Barber Shop - just below 25th on the Avenue for more than sixty-five years.

Frank is no exception to the generally accepted idea of barbers. He can, and does, talk freely on many subjects -- from the days of Sunday morning crap-shooting at the "Old Choppin' Block" to present day sports and politics. He is the person to see if you would like to hear interesting stories about Foggy Bottom - Then.

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 * ST. STEPHEN, MARTYR PARISH *
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 * CANDIES, JAMS, like Mother used to make. *
 * HAND KNITTED GIFTS AND BABY CLOTHES *
 * the art Grandmother knew. *
 * HAND FASHIONED APRONS *
 * HAND DRESSED DOLLS . TRINKETS *
 * HOUSE PLANT SHOP . TREASURES *
 * CHRISTMAS BOOTH *
 * gifts, decorations, cards, wrappings, wreaths *
 * Let the country-dressed waiters and waitresses *
 * serve you delicious home-cooked food. Bring *
 * the whole family to special Friday and Saturday *
 * night dinners! Remember Friday is a Feast Day *
 * and you can eat meat. Come Sunday morning *
 * and enjoy a Continental Breakfast. *
 * November 1: 5-9 PM . November 2: 1-10 PM *
 * November 3: 10 AM - 2 PM *
 * ST. STEPHEN, MARTYR CHURCH *
 * *****

SEEN AND HEARD AT LAST MEETING

Did anyone listen to the minutes of the last meeting while our "Gorgeous Eve" Larson read them in that stunning black cocktail dress?

President Bill Simon's poise and patience carried through on the procedural snafu concerning the possible name change. Will Rufus and Alex go another round on the name change before the final vote at the next meeting?

Great idea of Rufus Lisle's to have the Hospitality Cards pinned on his Committee members... looked especially good on Catherine Stokes.

 * 26th & N.H. Ave., N.W. Mon.-Thur. 8-5:30 *
 * (Next to Wax Museum Fri. - Sat. 8-6:00 *
 * and Water Gate Inn) Sunday 9-1:00 *
 * *****

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Association Membership through June 30, 1964

Use this form, or another sheet of paper, to send following information to the Membership Chairman TODAY.

Name _____

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Address _____

Telephone _____ Apartment _____

Owner _____ Renter _____

PLEASE, complete and mail with check for dues TODAY to:

Mr. Rufus Lisle, Chairman
Membership Committee, FBA
2525 Eye Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20037

Watergate Sales Agents, Riverview Realty, moved into the new building at Virginia Avenue and 27th St. The four flag poles and lighted fountains in the pool out front are quite attractive and the patio leaves no space unused, with gardens, fountains, etc. and even piped-in music. The offices are plush and efficient.

* HALLOWEEN AND THANKSGIVING *
* Party Decorations, HALLMARK Cards *
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* BARTON'S Continental Candy *
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* 2475 VIRGINIA AVENUE, N. W. *
* POTOMAC PLAZA *
* **FE 7-5067** *

**ODDS AND ENDS**

The three new town houses in Hughes Mews reported in the June NEWS to be completed about October are still in the quite-unfinished stage. The owners, the Al Catrells, the Jay Goldsteins, and Jerry Hall, are hoping to be able to move in before Christmas. On one of our cooler late afternoons recently there was a crane truck putting the central air conditioning units on the roofs. All three houses probably will have a roof garden.

Theo. Pedas, manager of the Circle Theatre, jokingly tells us that the reason for the big turnouts at the Circle is the advertising pull of the NEWS. We would like to believe it; however, no one has indicated that they "read it in the NEWS" to him. The attractions offered by the Circle do bring in a great many movie-goers though. We know several people who were turned away, recently, because of lack of seating for three nights running.

Our thanks are extended to International Business Services for their cooperation in helping us to meet distribution deadlines, even when copy is late and it requires extra special efforts. We also thank them for the fine printing job on the NEWS - we have received many compliments on it which are due them.

* **SUPER** *
* **FEDERAL** *
* **MARKETS** *
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* WE DELIVER *
* 2430 Pennsylvania Avenue, N. W. *
* Watch for weekly Specials in *
* Thursday's Evening Star Newspaper *

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